

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for the retanning of iron-tanned leather, comprising applying to iron-tanned leather, condensates based on:

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- A) sulphonated aromatics,
- B) aldehydes and/or ketones and optionally
- C) one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of the unsulphonated aromatics, urea and urea derivatives

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with the proviso that naphthalenesulphonic acid/formaldehyde condensate content and phenol and formaldehyde condensate content is in each case less than 25% by weight, based on the total amount of condensate.

15 2. The process according to Claim 1, wherein a leather having a softness of greater than 15 units, measured according to IUP/36, is obtained.

3. The process to Claim 1, characterized in that the condensate is based on:

20 A) phenolsulphonic acids and optionally other sulphonated aromatics, ,
B) formaldehyde and optionally
C) one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of the unsulphonated aromatics, urea and urea derivatives.

25 4. The process according to Claim 1, wherein the condensate is based on:

- A) phenolsulphonic acid and bishydroxyphenyl sulphone and
- B) formaldehyde and optionally
- C) urea.

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5. The process according to Claim 1, wherein the condensate is used in an amount of 1 to 20% by weight, based on the iron-tanned leather.
6. The process according to Claim 4, wherein the ratio of phenolsulphonic acid to bishydroxyphenyl sulphone being 80:20 to 10:90.
7. Process for the production of iron-tanned leather according to Claim 1, wherein the iron-tanned leather is derived from pelt which is pretreated under acidic conditions before the iron tanning.
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8. Leather having an iron content of 1-7% by weight, that contains at least one condensate based on:
 - A) sulphonated aromatics,
 - B) aldehydes and/or ketones and optionally
 - C) one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of the unsulphonated aromatics, urea and urea derivatives,
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- with the proviso that naphthalenesulphonic acid/formaldehyde condensate content and phenol and formaldehyde condensate content is less than 25% by weight, based on the total amount of condensate.
9. Leather according to Claim 8, having a softness of greater than 15 units, measured according to IUP/36.